Assessment of Software Development Tools for Safety Critical Real-Time Systems

Real Time Safety

FAA Contract DTFA0301C00048

Project Personnel:

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FY2005 Software/Complex Electronic Hardware Standardization Conference, Norfolk, VA, July 26-28, 2005
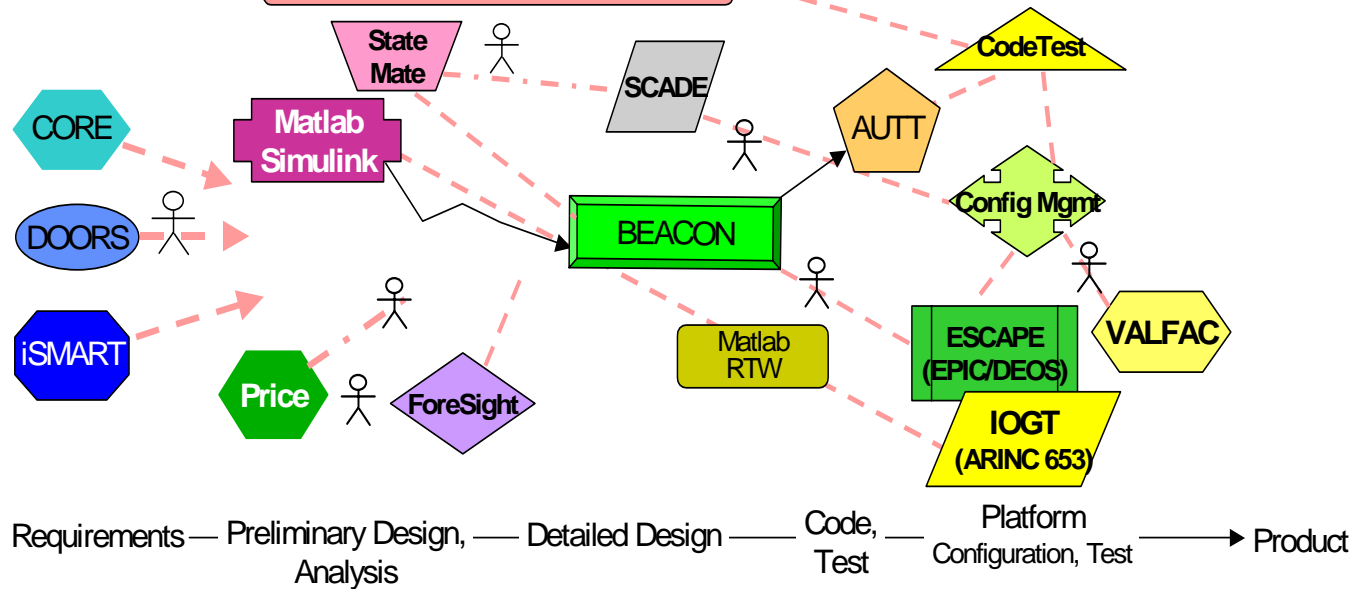
Outline

- **Project Background**
- Research Approach
- Development Tool Assessment
- Development Tool Qualification
- Experiments
- Software Tool Forum
- Research Findings
- Conclusions

Real Time Safety

- Each COTS tool captures a single narrow aspect of the system design/architecture
  ⇒ System designer must depend on other tools for architectural representation and integration
  Custom workarounds, patches, and conversions needed around each COTS tool, in each project

- System is captured in different forms in different COTS tools
  ⇒ Manual translation between tools causes lot of duplicated effort

- Proliferation of tools and design notations
  ⇒ Lack of standard design/architecture notations leads to less re-use across SBUs
  Platform dependencies get embedded in design, reducing portability

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Background: DO-178B Definitions

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- **Software tool**: *A computer program used to help develop, test, analyse, produce or modify another program or its documentation*

- **Software development tools**: *Tools whose output is part of airborne software and thus can introduce errors*

- *References:*
  - Section 12.2 of DO-178B
  - Chapter 9 in Order N8110.49 *Software Approval Guidelines*

- NOTE: DO-178B is a "guidance" document only focusing on software processes and objectives to comply with these processes

- The development tools provide a **transformation** between the **input** and **output** artifacts
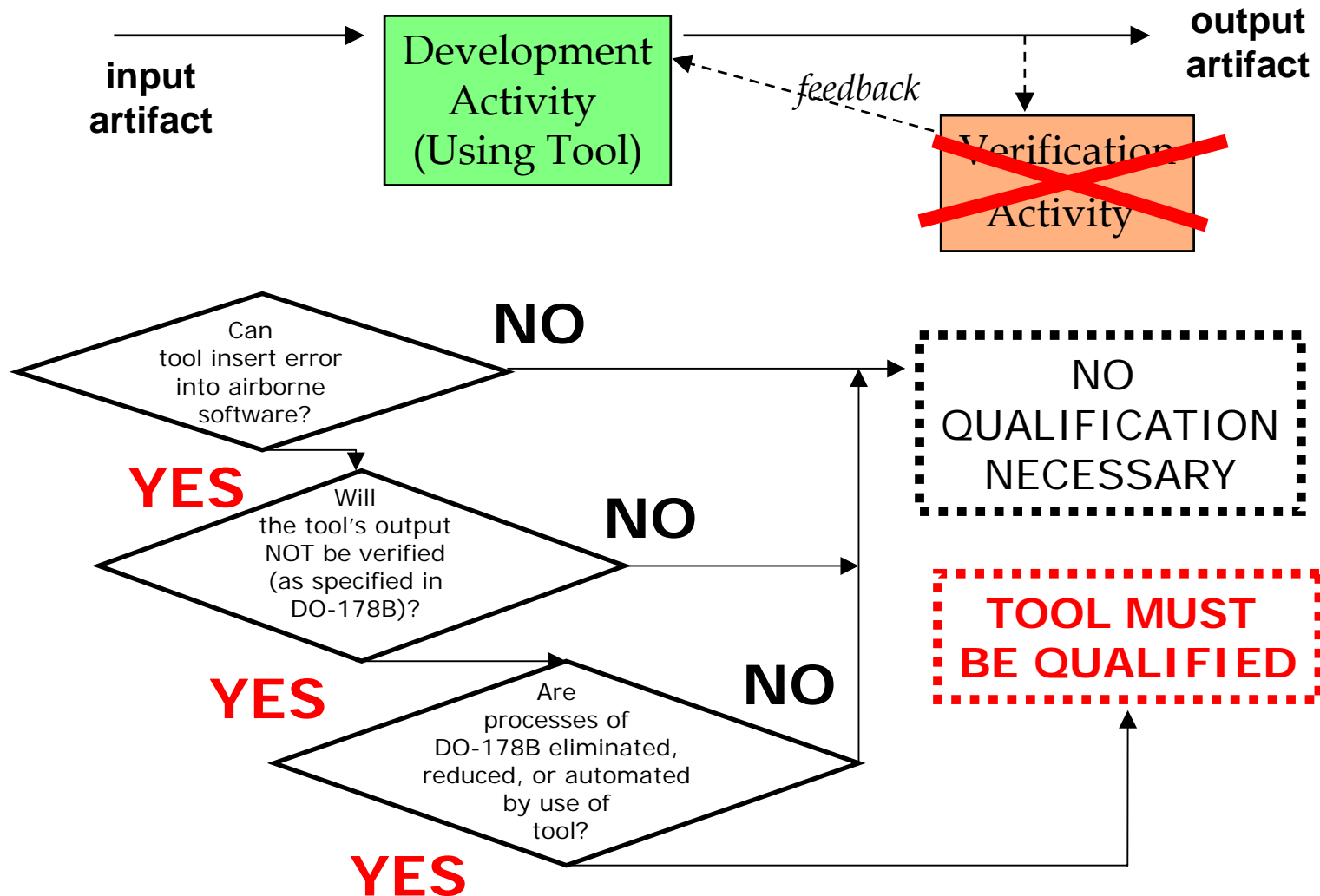
Background: Not Qualified vs. Qualified Development Tools *Section 9.3 of Order N8110.49*

input artifact → Development Activity (Using Tool) → output artifact

feedback ← ~~Verification Activity~~

Can tool insert error into airborne software? — **NO** → NO QUALIFICATION NECESSARY

YES ↓

Will the tool's output NOT be verified (as specified in DO-178B)? — **NO** →

YES ↓

Are processes of DO-178B eliminated, reduced, or automated by use of tool? — **NO** →

YES → **TOOL MUST BE QUALIFIED**

Background: Hypotheses

- Theory:
  - o Tools improve development process by automation and reduction of repetitive tasks
  - o Qualified development tools could help with the current certification process by reducing the verification burden of the intermediate software lifecycle artifacts
- Practice:
  - o Although the tool qualification is a well established concept, only a handful of development tools were even attempted to be qualified
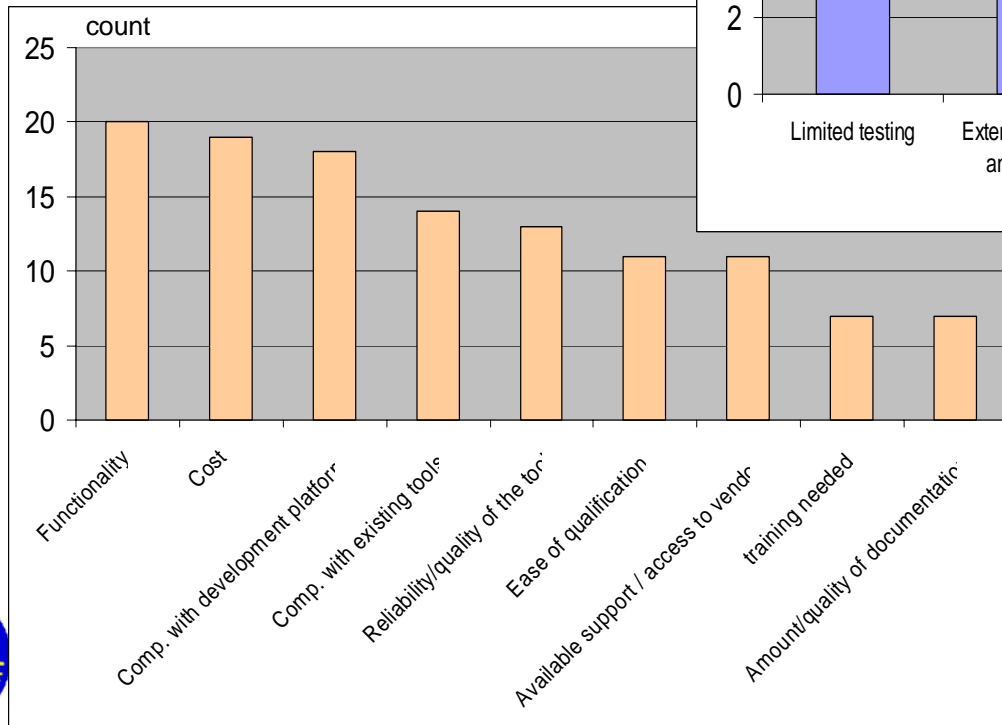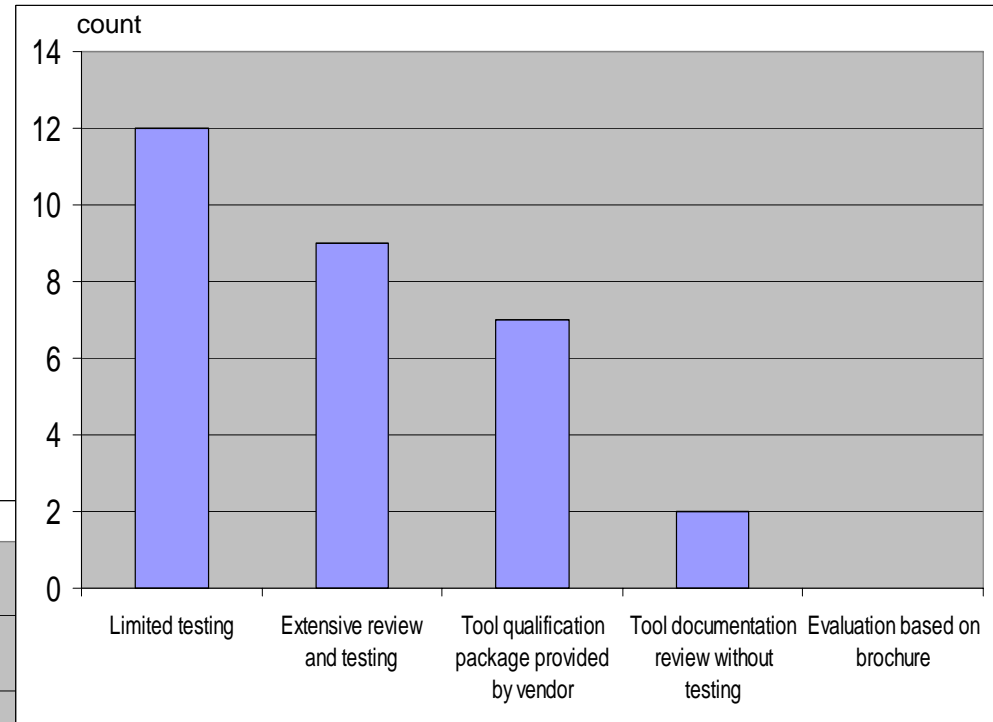- The reasons for this situation have been explored in the research

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Background: Survey - Results

- 28 respondents representing airborne software (74%) and the FAA personnel (14%) at the FAA Software Conference, May 2002, Dallas/Ft.Worth,

- Follow-up on the e-mail to the FAA Software Certification mailing list (only 14 responses from over 500 individuals)

Background: Survey - Major Issues

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- Differing perspectives: applicant, certifying authority, tool vendor
- Cost
- Obsolescence
- Tool functionality and compatibility with existing development environment
- Tool vendors typically not used to the level of effort required for a DO-178B compliance
- False vendor claims (scaling, independence)
- Difficult to identify features of a tool which could cause/contribute to errors in the target software

- Inadequate documentation, training and understanding of development tool
- Discouraging rigor of tool qualification and perception of qualification high cost
- Business model prevents from investing in tool qualification
- Need for re-qualification for each new certification project
- Tool reliability as a measure is questionable (How to show it? Does it matter?)
- Vendor support and alternate means for COTS tools

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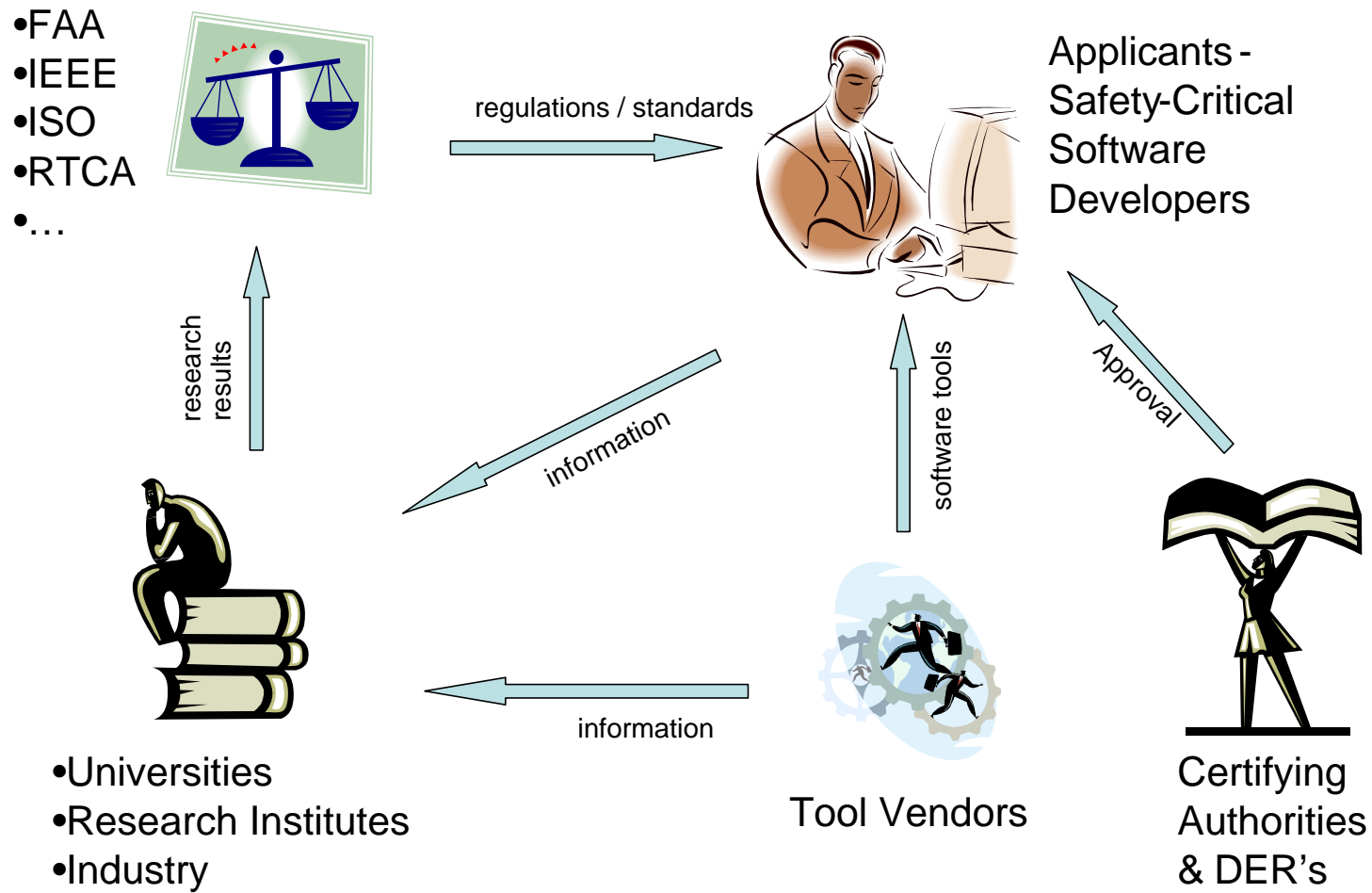- Conclusions

Research Approach: FAA Contract via AACE

- A number of software tool manufacturers claim their tool will meet DO-178B criteria

- 2001 Aircraft Airworthiness Center of Excellence (AACE) research program solicitation

- Contract DTFA0301C00048: "Assessment of Development Tools for Safety Critical Real-Time Systems"

- Three phase research activity (Jan 2002-June 2005)
  - o Phase One: Baseline and Taxonomy
  - o Phase Two: Experiment and Feedback
  - o Phase Three: Assessment and Guidelines

- The purpose of the project has been to assess the safety, quality, economic, efficiency benefits, and advantages/disadvantages of software tool suites used to develop software

Software Aspects of Certification
Stakeholder Diagram

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- FAA
- IEEE
- ISO
- RTCA
- …

regulations / standards

Applicants - Safety-Critical Software Developers

research results

information

software tools

Approval

information

- Universities
- Research Institutes
- Industry

Tool Vendors

Certifying Authorities & DER's

Research Approach: Objectives

- To **review literature** to establish a base for assessment of software development tools

- To **identify the development tools**, their impact on the software development lifecycle, and the qualification efforts

- To **conduct industry surveys** and analyze the industry/government feedback to define tool evaluation criteria

- To **create a taxonomy** and a set of criteria/guidelines for the tool selection and qualification

- To assess effort and defects during a case study **collecting experimental development process data**

- To analyze the data, edit the reports, and **disseminate the results**

- To **provide input for guidelines** on tools selection and qualification

Research Approach: Problem Statement
- Research Questions

- **Industry View**
  - Qualification Process and Approaches
  - Safe Use of Tools
  - Future Trends
- **Qualification**
  - What, Why and How?
  - Barriers and Factors
- **Quality Assessment**
  - Safety Critical Real-Time Specifics
  - Mechanisms and Methods of Assessment
  - Tool Support Impact
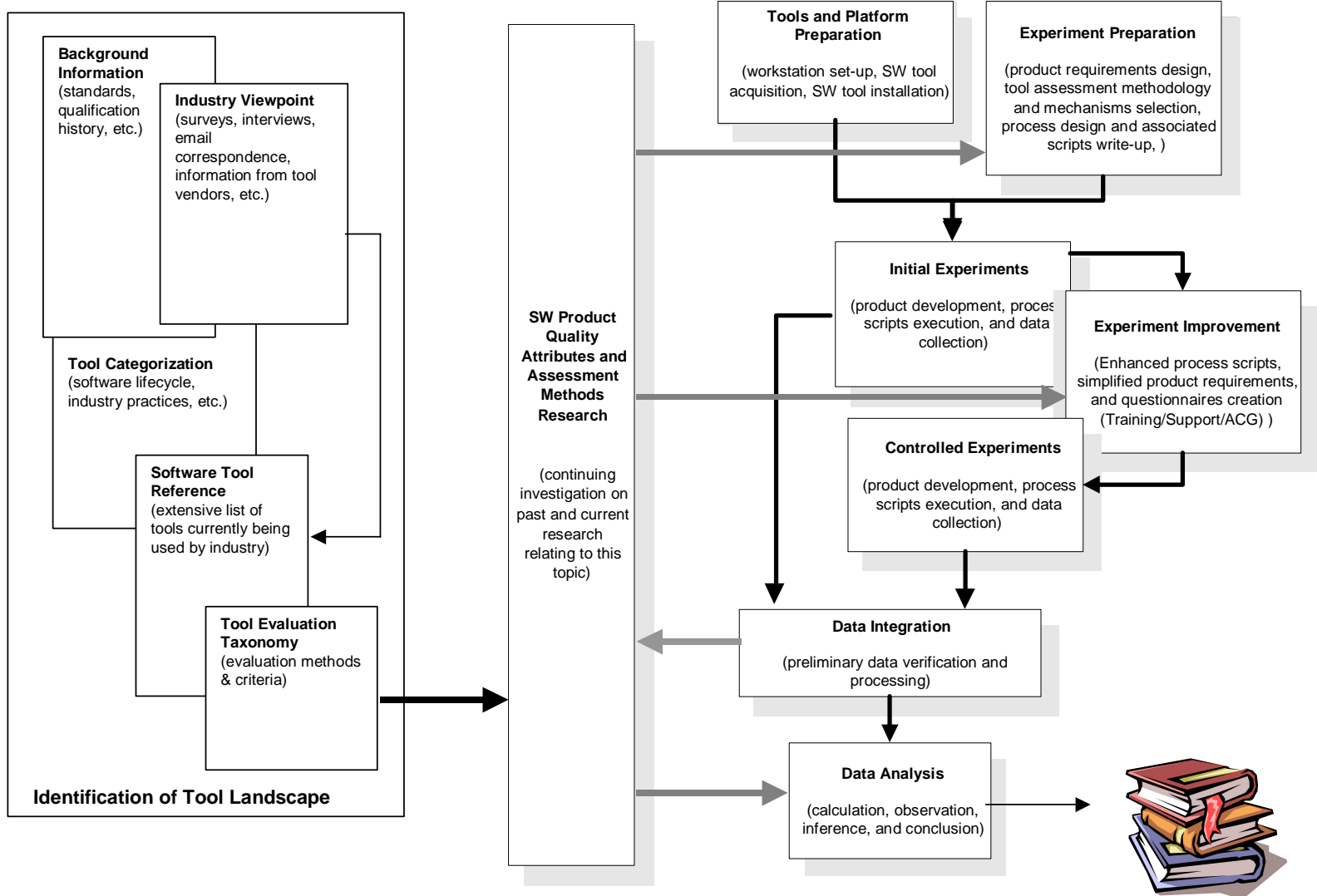- **Tool Evaluation Taxonomy**
  - Tool Functionality and Categories
  - Evaluation Criteria

Research Approach: Project Workflow

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Tools and Platform Preparation

(workstation set-up, SW tool acquisition, SW tool installation)

Experiment Preparation

(product requirements design, tool assessment methodology and mechanisms selection, process design and associated scripts write-up,)

Background Information
(standards, qualification history, etc.)

Industry Viewpoint
(surveys, interviews, email correspondence, information from tool vendors, etc.)

SW Product Quality Attributes and Assessment Methods Research

(continuing investigation on past and current research relating to this topic)

Initial Experiments

(product development, process scripts execution, and data collection)

Experiment Improvement

(Enhanced process scripts, simplified product requirements, and questionnaires creation (Training/Support/ACG))

Tool Categorization
(software lifecycle, industry practices, etc.)

Controlled Experiments

(product development, process scripts execution, and data collection)

Software Tool Reference
(extensive list of tools currently being used by industry)

Tool Evaluation Taxonomy
(evaluation methods & criteria)

Identification of Tool Landscape

Data Integration

(preliminary data verification and processing)

Data Analysis

(calculation, observation, inference, and conclusion)

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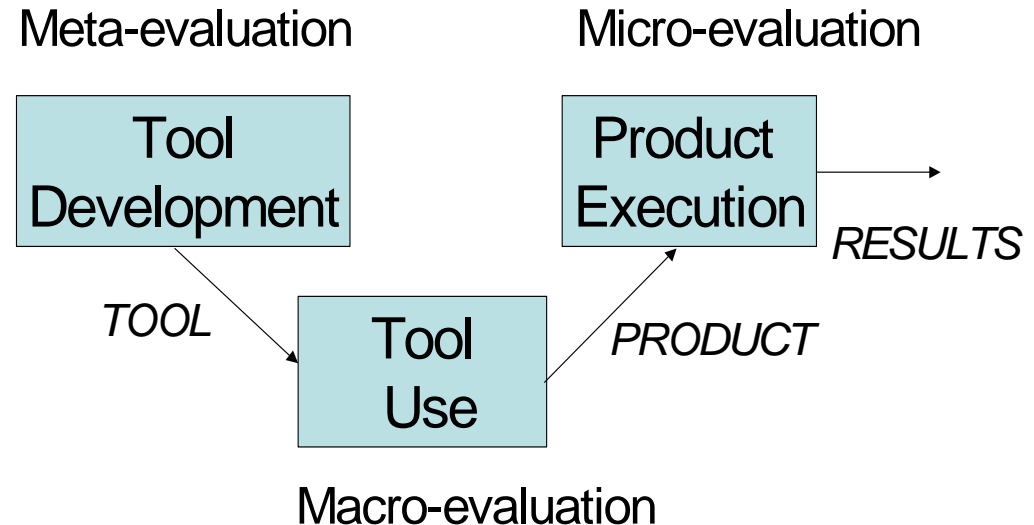- Research Findings
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Assessment: Goals

- To help providing sufficient information to support the qualification of a tool

- To develop a set of criteria and methods to assess (measure) the quality of the tool: how well provides its function?
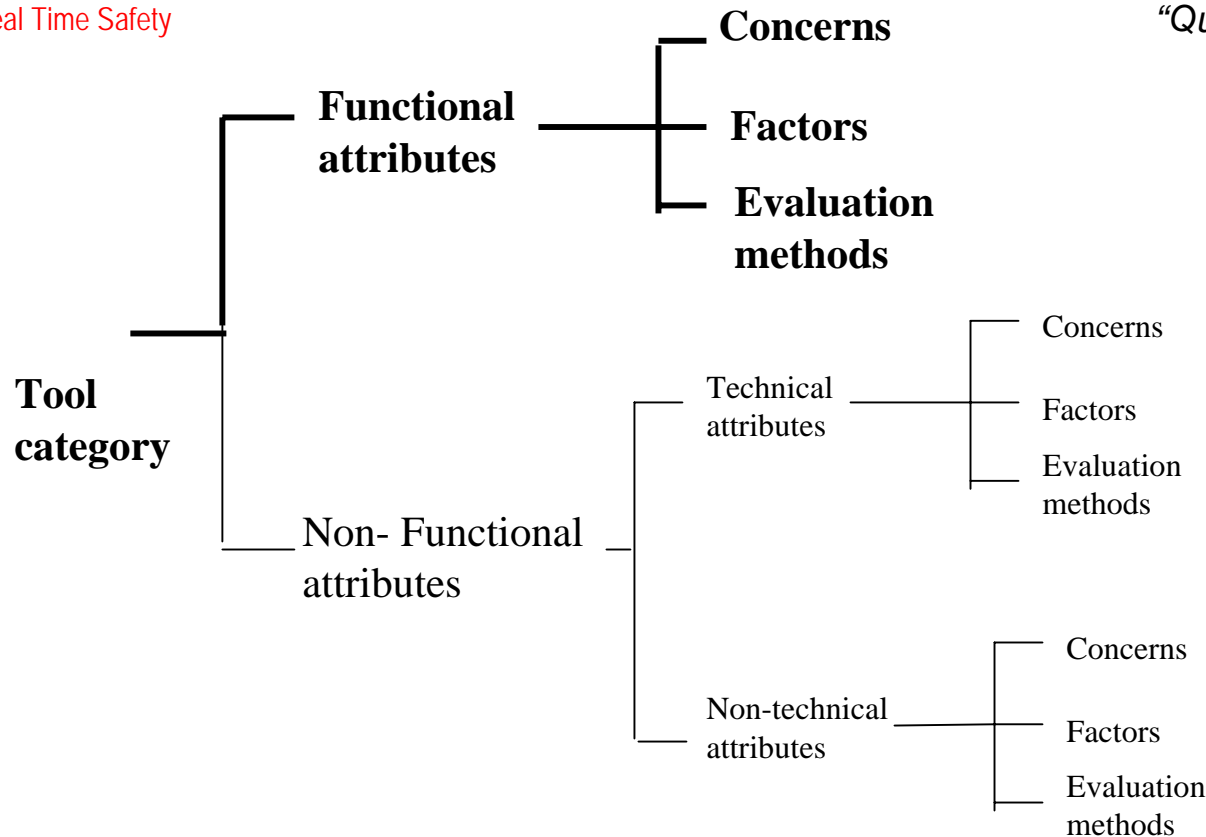
- Two approaches:
  - o Formal **qualification-oriented** evaluation of functionalities
  - o Informal **utilization-oriented** hands-on evaluation of the tool in operation

Meta-evaluation

Micro-evaluation

| Tool Development | | Product Execution |

TOOL

PRODUCT

RESULTS

Tool Use

Macro-evaluation

Assessment: Tool Evaluation Taxonomy

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Tool category

Functional attributes
- **Concerns**
- **Factors**
- **Evaluation methods**

Non- Functional attributes

Technical attributes
- Concerns
- Factors
- Evaluation methods

Non-technical attributes
- Concerns
- Factors
- Evaluation methods

Non-functional:

■ Technical: *dependability, performance, security*

■ Non-technical: *support, cost, vendor viability, training*

Functional:

o *determinism, correctness, robustness, traceability, standards conformance*

Assessment: Functional Attributes

concerns	factors	methods
Determinism	Tools' architecture	Architecture assessment (meta)
	Predictability	Tool use (macro)
	Conversion and code generation	Algorithm inspection (meta)
	Subset of language used in product	Code inspection (macro)
Robustness	Partition integrity	Code inspection (macro)
	Boundary conditions	Code testing (micro)
	Architecture / Coupling	Design review (meta)
Traceability	Product's architecture	Model inspection (macro)
	Product's code / coding rules	Code inspection (macro)
Correctness	Conversion and code generation	Algorithm inspection (meta)
	Subset of language used	Code inspection (macro)
	Syntax and formality	Formal techniques (macro)
	Real-time management	Timing evaluation (micro)
	Language representation rules	Formal methods (meta)
Standards Conformance	Design	Model inspection (macro)
	Coding	Code inspection (macro)
	Behavioral	System testing (micro)

Assessment: Tools Landscape

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Structural Design Tool

e.g.:
Rhapsody
RoseRT
STOOD
Artisan

typically with code generator functionality

Requirements Tool

e.g.:
Reqtify
DOORS
SpecTRM
DOME

or/and

Functional Design Tool

e.g.:
SCADE
Matlab
BEACON
Sildex

Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
e.g.:
Tornado
Multi

Analysis Tool

e.g.:
RapidRMA
TimeWiz

Testing Tool

e.g.:
CodeTest
TestRT
VectorCast
Insure++

Implementation Tool

Target (with RTOS)

e.g.:
VxWorks
QNX
OSE
Integrity
LynxOS

Tool Categories

Assessment: Framework

■ Data required for evaluation (each category needs data items to collect criteria/metrics):

- o tool data
- o model data
- o source code data

| software requirements | → | TOOL USE | → | design model and source code |

developer/evaluator

Assessment: Data Items

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Tool

- Operational Profile
- Environment Specification
- Functional Characteristics
- Methodology and Notation Primitives
- Support for Expressing Timing and Safety Properties
- Requirement Document
- Design Document
- Test Scenarios and Results

Model

- Software Requirement Document
- Software Safety Properties
- Size of Model (blocks, modules, interfaces)
- Software Operational Scenarios
- Expected Timing Characteristics
- Expected Behavioral Model (states, sequences)

Code

- Partial vs. full code generation
- Code properties (language, subsets)
- Code parameters (LOC, quantitative measures)
- Readability (names, indentation, comments)
- Partitioning (separation of data, mutual exclusion)
- Timing
- Executable size (memory allocation)

Taxonomy View

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Indicators (attributes, factors, criteria, metrics)

Measurement Methods (evaluation techniques)

Evaluation results

Tool Evaluation

Behavioral View

Tool Data | **Model Data** | **Code Data**

Software Requirements Specification

Development Process

Generated Code

Software Design Description (model)

Design Standards (s/w architecture, meeting DO-178B objectives)

Project View

Qualification View

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Qualification: Objective

- Establish assurance that the software requirements, as submitted to the tool and developer, are correctly and completely transformed into the generated source code
- Qualification process involves the user to perform an audit of the tool, with an active cooperation of the tool vendor, who needs to show that:
    - o Tool requirements are properly documented
    - o Tool have appropriate configuration management
    - o Tool has been satisfactorily tested against its requirements
- Procedures controlling the use of tools (environment, constraints, limitations, version control) are as important as tool itself

Qualification: Process

- Tool qualification is an integral component of a specific certification program referenced within the Plan for Software Aspects of Certification (PSAC) and Software Accomplishment Summary (SAS) of the original certification project

- For development tools the required documents are:
  - o Tool Qualification Plan (TQP)
  - o Tool Operational Requirements (TOR)
  - o Tool Accomplishment Summary (TAS)

- Other data, required for review, include Tool Configuration Management Index, Tool Development Data, Tool Verification Records, Tool Quality Assurance Records, Tool Configuration Management Records, etc.

Outline

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- Development Tool Qualification

- **Experiments**

- Software Tool Forum

- Research Findings

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Experiments: Selected Tools

- For detailed analysis we selected design tools, with a **code generator** functionality, identifying two groups of different modeling paradigm:

- Structural/Discrete Models (UML-oriented):
  - o Rose Real Time / Rational http://www.rational.com/
  - o Rhapsody / iLogix http://www.ilogix.com/
  - o Real Time Studio Professional / Artisan http://www.artisansw.com/
  - o STOOD / TNI-Valiosys http://www.tni-valiosys.com/

- Functional/Continuous Models (Block-oriented):
  - o SCADE / Esterel http://www.esterel-technologies.com/
  - o Sildex / TNI-Valiosys http://www.tni-valiosys.com/
  - o Simulink/RTW / Mathworks / RTW http://www.mathworks.com/
  - o Tau SDL Suite / Telelogic http://www.telelogic.com

Experiments: Description

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- **Process**:
  - o Preparation: project and tool familiarization
  - o Model development, code generation, and implementation
  - o Data collection
  - o Post-mortem

- **System**:
  - o Preliminary Experiment (4 tools, 4 developers):
    - ➤ flight data collection with simple processing (averaging, time-stamping) and displaying results on the terminal under user control
  - o Controlled Experiment (6 tools, 14 developers):
    - ➤ hair-dryer simulator (training);
    - ➤ microwave oven simulator (data collection)

Experiments: Criteria / Sources

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- {**178B**} RTCA Inc. (1992) *Software Considerations in Aiborne Systems and Equipment Certification*, Report RTCA/DO-178B, Washington, DC

- {**ISO**} ISO/IEC 14102-1995 (1995) *Information Technology – Guideline for the Evaluation and Selection of CASE Tools*, ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, 15 November 1995

- {**FAA**} U.S Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration (1991) *Software Quality Metrics*, Report DOT/FAA CT-91/1, 1991

- {**VTT**} Ihme T, Kumara P, Suihkonen K, Holsti N, Paakko M (1998) *Developing Application Frameworks for Mission-Critical Software: Using Space Applications as an Example*, Research Notes 1933, Technical Research Centre of Finland, Espoo, 1998

- {**BSC**} Wichmann B (1999) *Guidance for the Adoption of Tools for Use in Safety Related Software Development*, Report, British Computer Society, March 1999

Experiments: Criteria Selection

Criteria	survey	178B	ISO	FAA	VTT	BCS
Consistency		*				
Efficiency			*		*	
Functionality	*		*		*	
Maintainability			*	*		
Modifiability		*		*		
Portability			*	*		
Reliability	*	*	*	*		
Robustness		*				
Traceability		*				*
Usability			*	*		

- **Efficiency**: code size
- **Functionality**: questionnaire feedback
- **Traceability**: manual tracking between model and code
- **Usability**: developers effort (PSP)

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Preliminary Experiment

Traceability assessment matching:
requirements ⇔ design ⇔ code

- Purpose: to establish a **base for assessment of software development tools**
- Personal Software Process used to capture effort data
- Process improvement

Development tools: Matlab/Simulink/RTW, SCADE, Sildex, Artisan

RTOS (VxWorks)

human-machine interface

target board

sensors

aircraft simulator (OpalRT)

IDE (Tornado)

Example: Flight Data Acquisition Modeling

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Control Unit

Operator

Data System

- Operator_initialiazes/Identifies_NumberofParam
- Operator_Selects_ParamID
- Operator_Identifies_Output'sAveragingFrequency
- Data System_sends_ParamValue

System NotInitialized

/operator enters number of parameters, selects frequency for calculation & parameter ID

/Data System sends parameter values & frequency not reached

System Initialized

/operator exits system

/Data System sends parameter values & frequency not reached

/Data System sends parameter values & frequency reached

/Data System sends parameter values & frequency reached

System Initialized_Calculating/Printing Average

Operator_Identifies_Output'sAveragingFrequency

Description

Data Input requests averaging frequency
Operator enters the parameter ID
Control Unit sets the parameter ID

Operator — Data Input — Control Unit

request_avgFreq
enter_avgFreq
set_avgFreq

::I/O Unit
int numParam
typedef double valArray[maxParam]
typedef int array[maxParam]
array parameterArray
array frequenctArray
valArray valuesArray
int counter[3]
double total[3]
string names[45]
string units[45]
void input ()
void display (in char * *str)
void request_paramID (in array parameterArray)
unsigned short request_num ()
void request_avgFreq (in array frequenctArray, in array parameterArray)
void getPackets (in array paramArray, in array freqArray, in string names[], in int numParam, in string units[])

::Control Unit
array parameters
array Frequencies
int numberOfParameters
char * timestamp ()
void set_paramID (in array parameterArray)
void set_num (in unsigned short param)
void set_avgFreq (in array frequencyArray)
double get_avgdata (in array paramArray, in int tempParamFreq, in int *counter, in double *total, in int i, in string names[], in string units[], in int index)

::Average Calculator
double calc_avg (in double *dTotal, in int *iCounter)

Preliminary Experiment: Usability

Controlled Experiment

- **Purpose**: to collect data supporting **assessment of software development tools**

- Personal Software Process used to capture effort data

- Questionnaire used to collect qualitative data

- Two-phase approach
  - o Training model: hair-dryer *(4 requirements)*
  - o Experimental model: microwave *(10 requirements)*

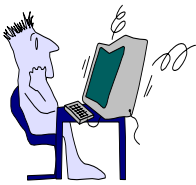Development tools: SCADE, Sildex, Rhapsody, Artisan, Tau, STOOD

RTOS (VxWorks)

human-machine interface

target board

IDE (Tornado)

Requirements

hair-dryer:

1. The system shall allow user to select motor speed (off, low, or high).
2. The system shall apply power to motor depending on the selected speed setting.
3. The system shall cycle the heater (30 seconds on and 30 seconds off) when in low- and high- speed modes.
4. The system display shall show the selected speed, heater status and the count down time when the heater is on.

microwave oven:

1. The oven shall allow user to set the cooking time in minutes and seconds (from default 00:00 to 59:59).
2. The oven shall allow user to set the power level (in the range from default 1 to 5).
3. The start of cooking shall initiate on explicit user request.
4. When the cooking starts, the oven shall turn on the light and the rotisserie motor for the specified time period.
5. When the cooking starts the oven shall cycle the microwave emitter on and off: the power level of 5 means that the emitter is on all the time, the power level of 1 means that the emitter is on only 1/5th of the time.
6. The oven shall display the remaining time of the cooking and the power level.
7. When the time period expires, the audible sound shall be generated and the light, motor, and emitter shall be turned off.
8. The oven shall turn on the emitter and the motor <u>only</u> when the door is closed.
9. The oven shall turn on the light <u>always</u> when the door is open.
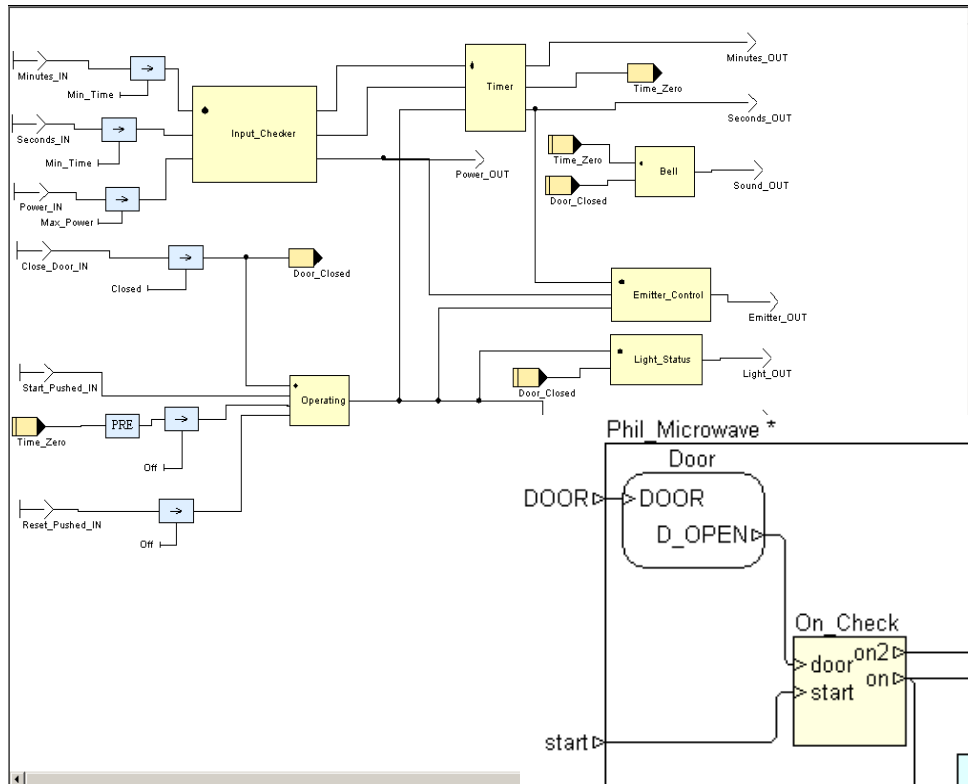10. The oven shall allow the user to reset at any time (to the default values)
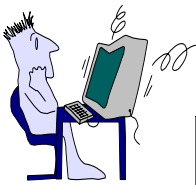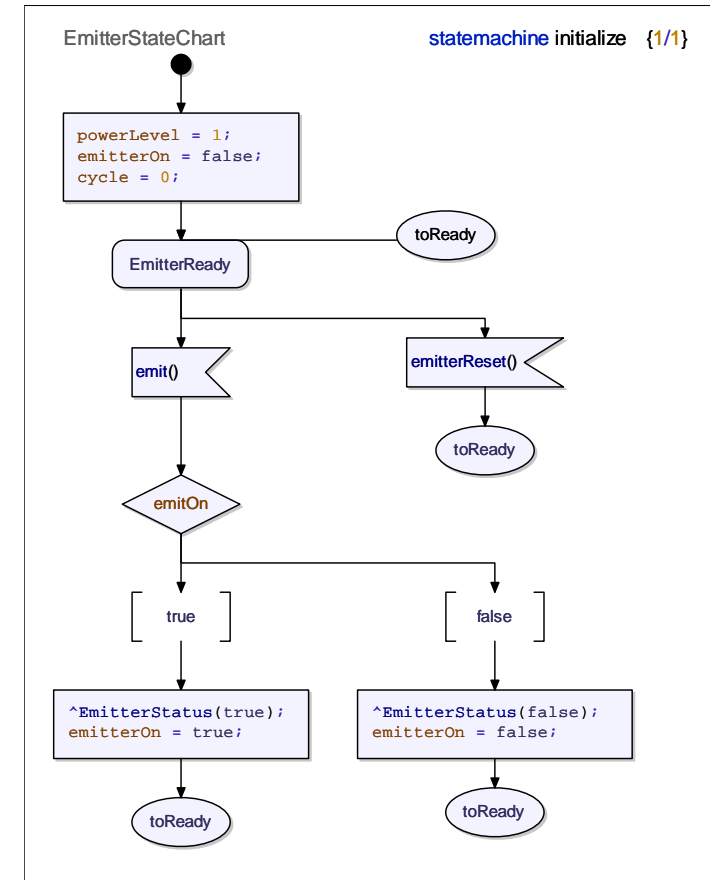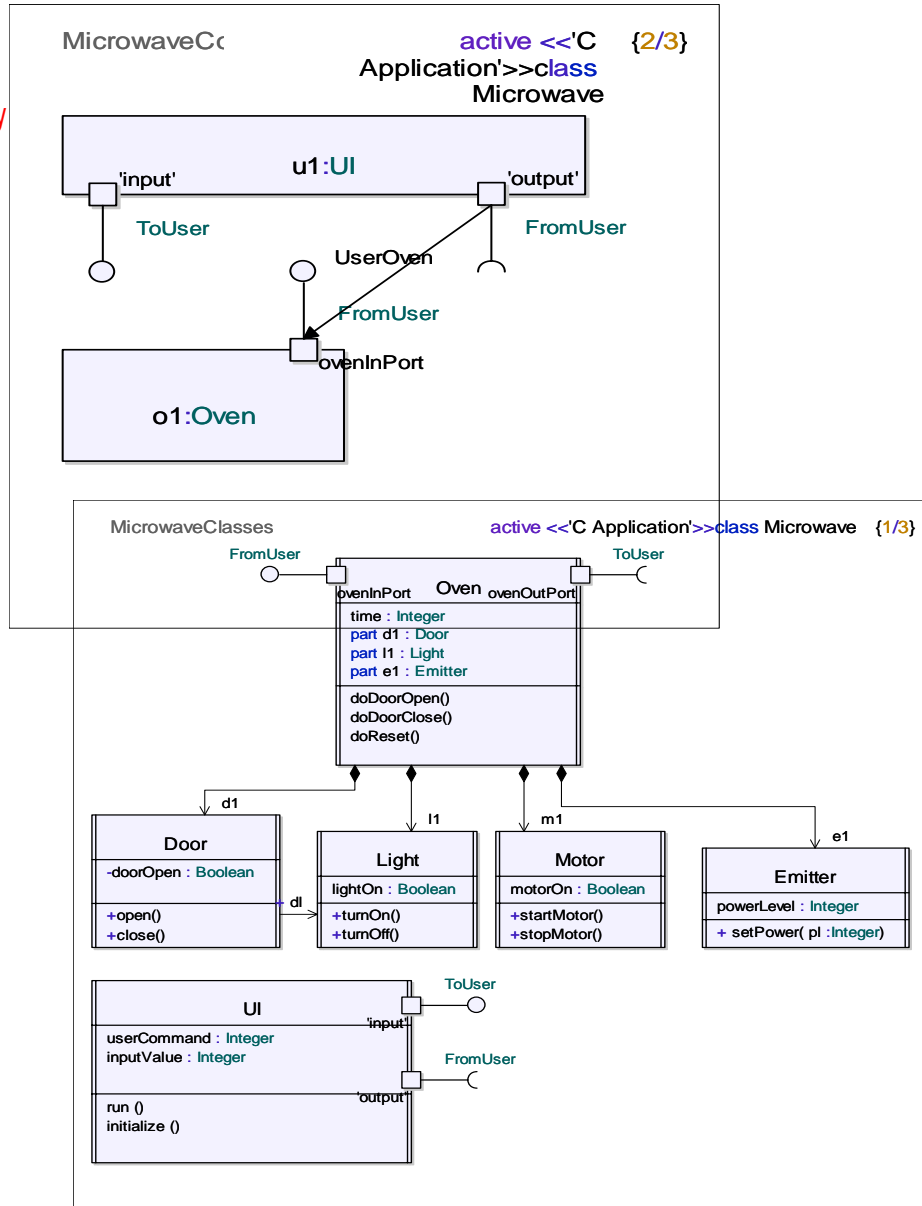
Example: Microwave Modeling

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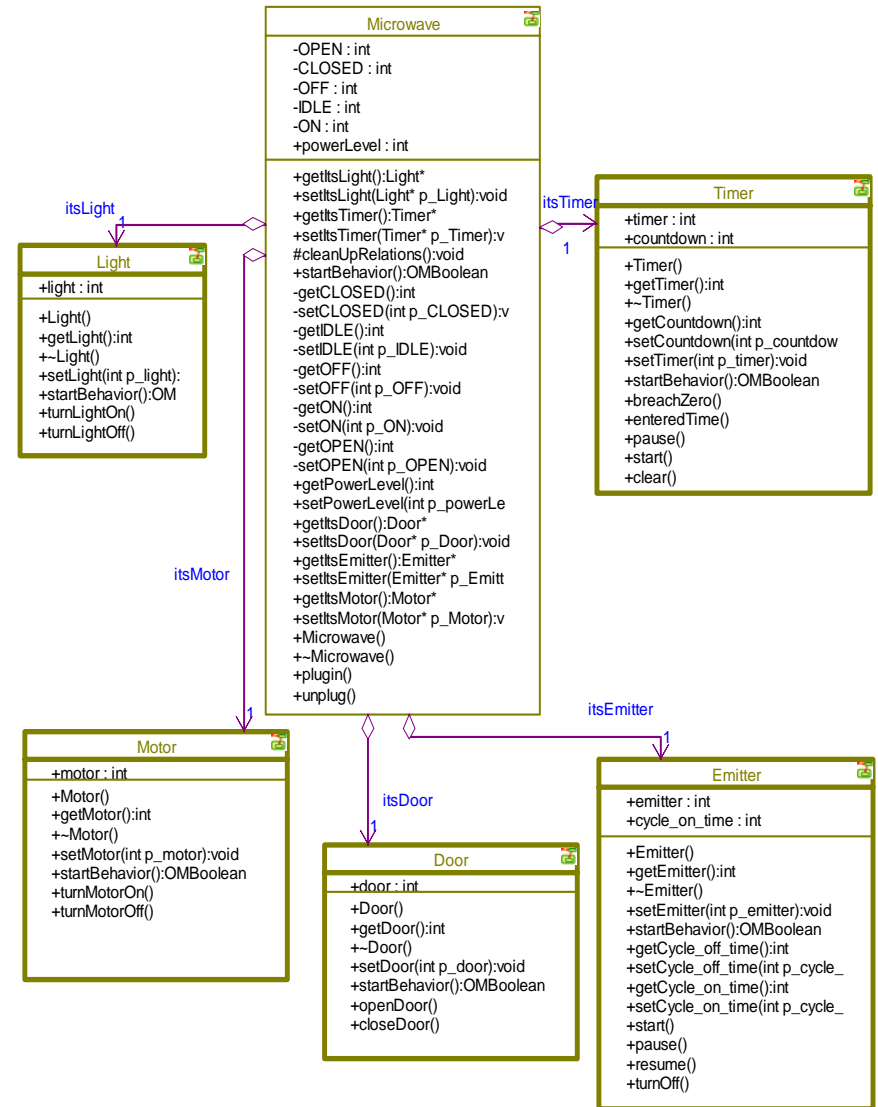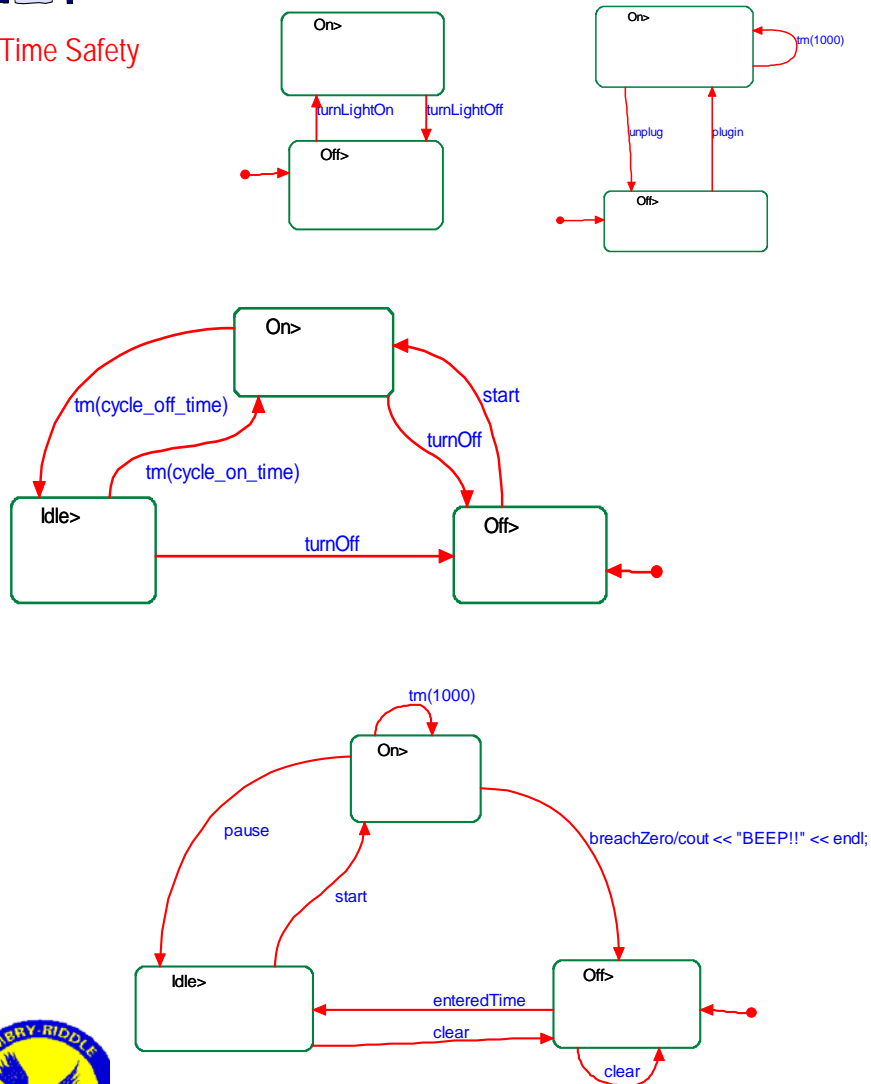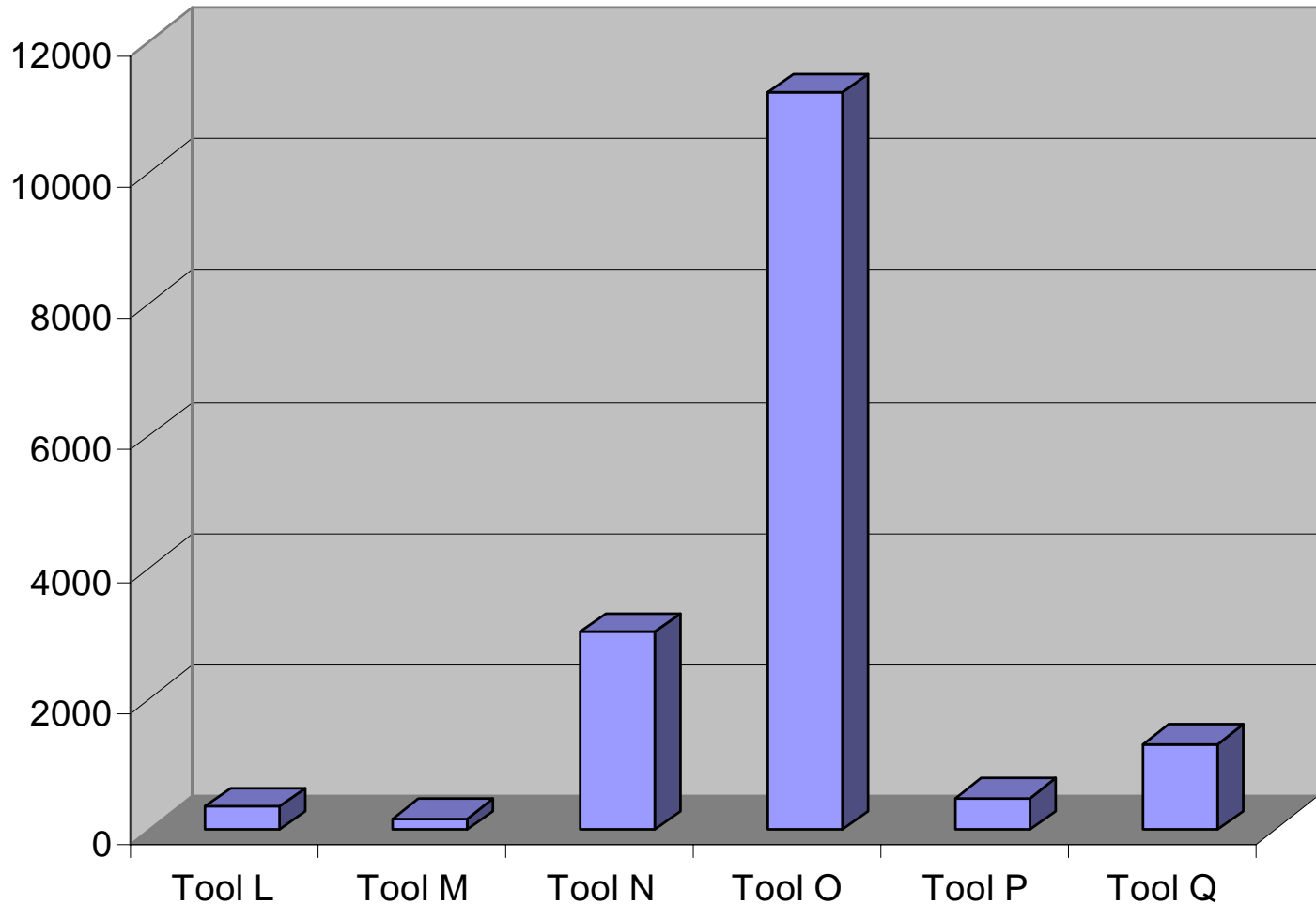
Example: Microwave Modeling

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Controlled Experiment: Efficiency

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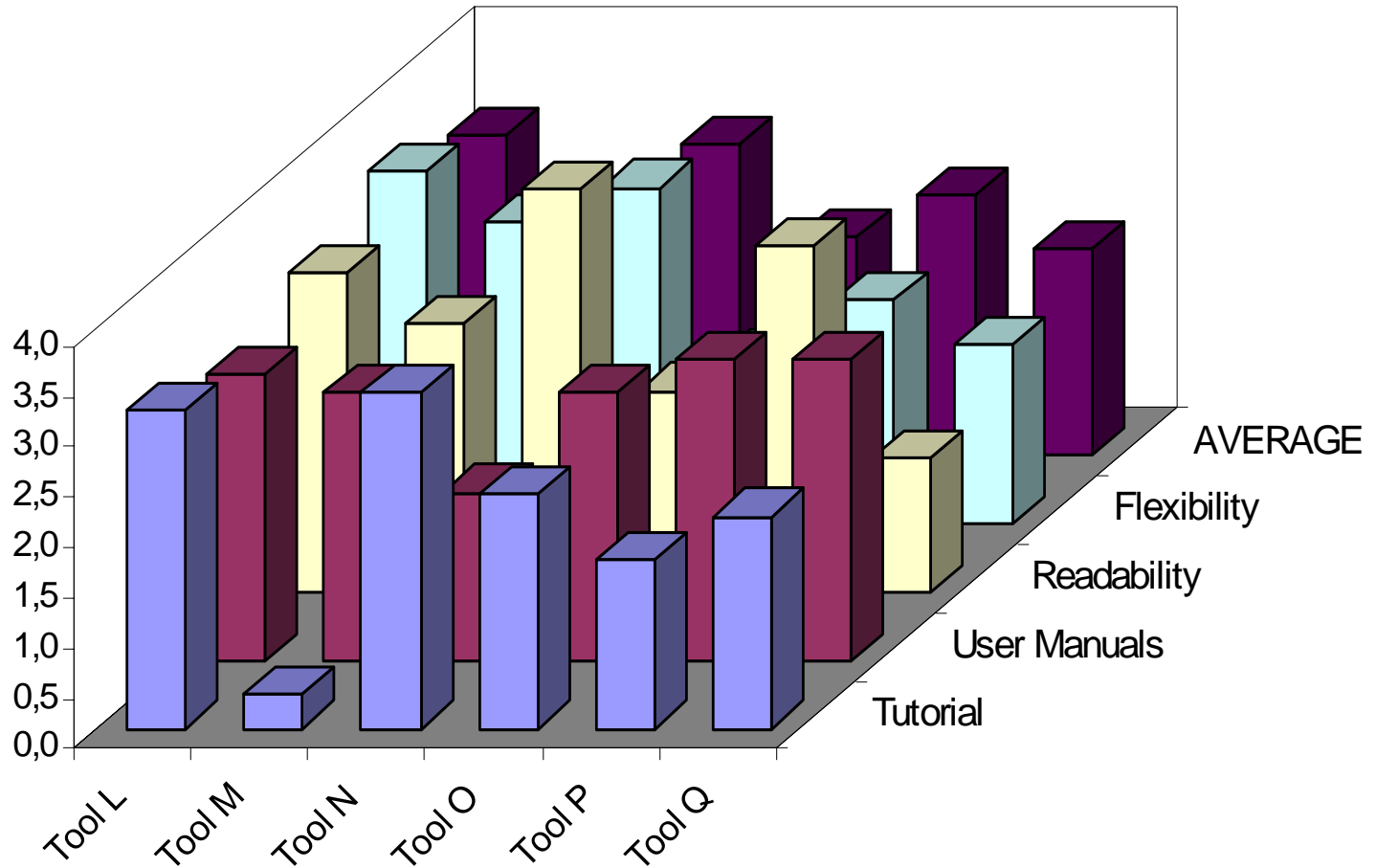
Controlled Experiment: Usability

Controlled Experiment: Traceability

- Small system size (only ten requirements) allowed developers to:

  - o identify and manually trace all requirements to their equivalent modeling components

  - o identify and manually trace all modeling components to their equivalent code components

  - o identify and manually trace all code components to their equivalent modeling components

- For all tools:

  - the model and code components matched

  - the experiment identified code components generated as the run-time framework with no direct trace to the requirements

Experiments: Viewpoints

- **Software Engineering Viewpoint (Discrete Models):**
  - o **Interactive** systems which use asynchronous languages based on interleaving tasks and operating systems principles (viewed as non-deterministic)
- **Control Engineering Viewpoint (Continuous Models):**
  - o **Reactive** systems using event sequencing and logical time abstraction on common discrete time scale computing one step at the time (considered to be deterministic)
    - ➢ Formal - by reducing the system to set of dynamic equations
    - ➢ Practical - by modeling and solving differential equations

Experiments: Determinism

- Restrictive interpretation of determinism: the same input necessarily leads to exactly the same output

- More accurate interpretation of determinism for tools: established the ability to determine correctness of the output from the tool

- Approach:

  - Construct a state machine using variation of build sequences (the states and transitions built in different order)

  - Analyze the code generated from these variable builds

- The experiments show that the generated code may have different structure, but provides the same behavior
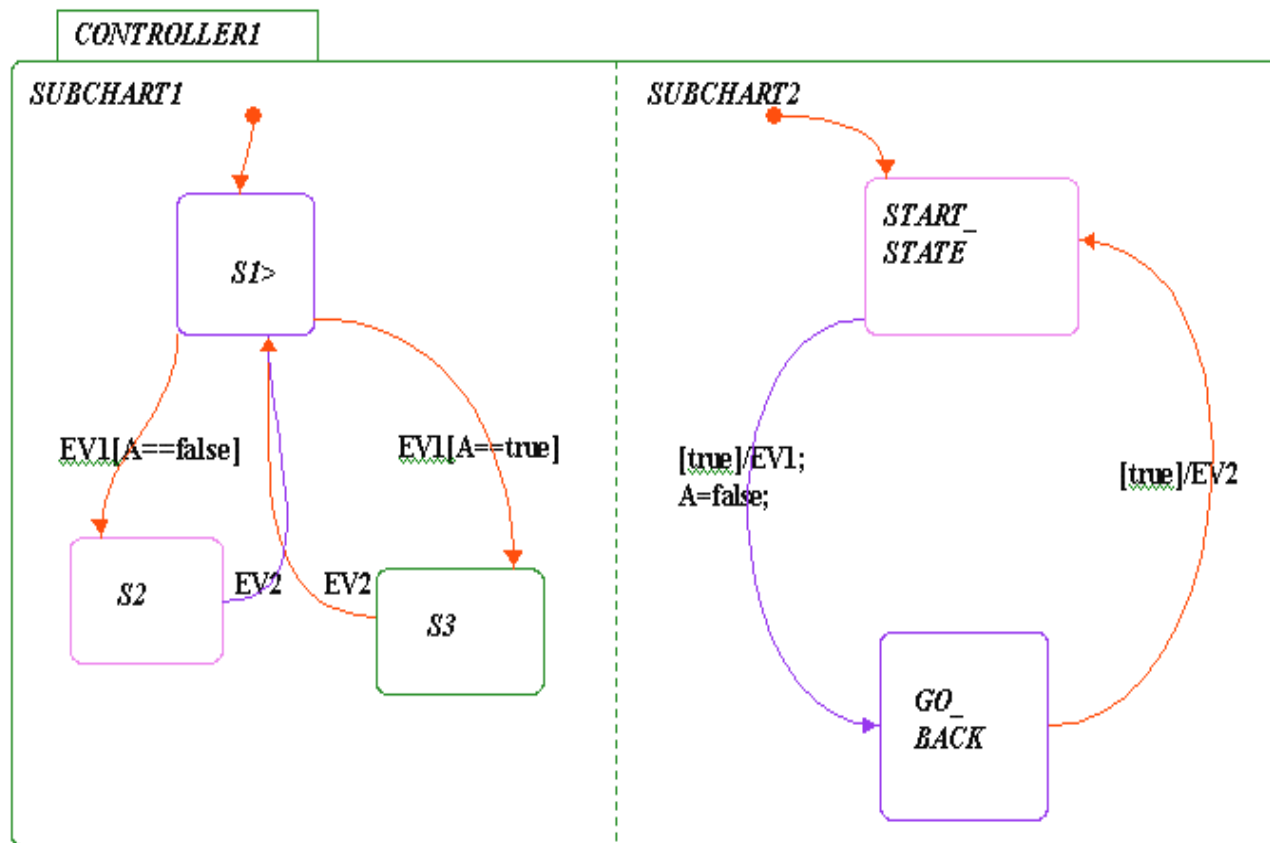
Behavioral Experiment: Model

- Create simple "producer-consumer" state machine
- Implement the model using various tools
- Test the behavior of generated code

Behavioral Experiment: Results

Tool	Behavior
TOOL X	Upon receiving and consuming EV1, the SUBCHART1 alternated between entering S2 and S3. The specific timing of the tool in resetting A to TRUE allowed the entry to state S2, even though it was not intention of the original design
TOOL Y	With the guarded transitions between states in the SUBCHART1, transitions occurred between states in the SUBCHART2 only, and the events are generated, but EV1 and EV2 were never consumed. No transitions from S1 in SUBCHART1. No entry into S2 nor S3 ever occurs
TOOL Z	With the guarded transitions in the SUBCHART1 the events EV1 and EV2 would *occasionally* be consumed. Several transitions would occur in SUBCHART2 before either EV1 or EV2 would be consumed. State S2 was never reached. Transitions were only between states S1 and S3

Experiments: Synchronicity

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- The **synchronous** approach enables to achieve **determinism** and is suited for **time-triggered** applications/functions

- It is based on the abstract viewpoint that programs instantaneously and deterministically react to input events coming from their environment

- The programs cyclically (in the loop):
  - o read inputs (events & values)
  - o compute the systems outputs and/or new states
  - o write the outputs

- Generally the loop is performed according to a basic clock; some computations may be performed at a lower pace (for instance every two cycles)

- The approach used in qualified tools (SCADE)

Experiment: Comments

- Tools with code generators allow developers to focus on a higher level of abstraction rather than mundane coding

- However …
  - o Specific tool's approach may constrain development methodology
  - o Modern development tools require a long learning curve
  - o Inadequate documentation and tutorials
  - o Possible tool malfunction due to workstation environment
  - o Unclear messages in code generation, compiling and downloading

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- **Software Tool Forum**
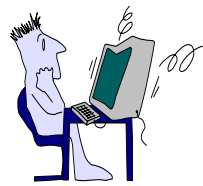
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Software Tool Forum: ERAU Daytona Beach, FL

■ May 18/19, 2004: 150 participants representing 68 organizations (industry, government, academia):

Ada Core Technologies, Airbus, Aircraft Braking Systems, ATL Software, Altair Avionics, Ametek Aerospace, Aonix, Artisan Software, Avidyne Corp, Avionics, Avionyx, Inc., Avista Inc., BAE Systems, Barco, Bechtel, Belcan, Boeing, CertTech LLC, Cessna Aircraft, CMC Electronics, Comm-Nav, Crane Aerospace & Electronics, CS Canada Inc., Directorate of Technical Airworthiness, DiSTI, Embedded Plus, ERAU, EMBRAER, Engenuity Technologies, ENSCO, Inc., Escher Technologies, Inc., FAA, FGCU, Garmin, GB Tech Inc,. GE Aircraft Engines, General Aviation Manufacturers, Goodrich Corp., Green Hills Software, Gulfstream Aerospace, Hamilton Sundstrand, High Integrity Solutions, Honeywell, IAI, Iowa State University, LDRA Technology Inc., Lockheed Martin, Metrowerks, MPC Products, NASA Langley, Polyspace, Pratt & Whitney, Real-Time Software Solutions, Rockwell – Collins, Rolls Royce, Safe Flight Instruments, Software Engineering Institute, Software Productivity Consortium, Teledyne Controls, MathWorks, MITRE Corp, Titan Systems, Transport Canada, TTTech, University of Minnesota, University of Paderborn, University of York, Vector Software, Verocel

■ Identification of issues to consider in the future actions and need for clarification/guidelines

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Software Tool Forum: Priority List (1)

- **Development tool qualification criteria need to be modified**
  - o Criteria for tool qualification too stringent
  - o Differences between the tool and the target software
  - o Guidance for COTS missing
  - o Platform issues
  - o Partial credit would be needed
  - o Flexible rigor for tool qualification
  - o Code reviews issues
- **Criteria needs to be established to fit the Model-Based Development (MBD)**
  - o Lifecycle consideration
  - o Definition of what is the "source code"
  - o Fuzzy boundary between requirements and implementation
  - o Structural coverage for models
  - o How to analyze the models?
  - o Thorough analysis for the generated code?
  - o Guidelines for model reviews

Software Tool Forum: Priority List (2)

■ **Qualification criteria need to be developed that enable qualification to be carried from one program to another**

- o Definition of certification vs. qualification
- o Reuse credit for the tool software
- o Formal qualification approval document
- o Tool upgrades and their impact on qualification status
- o Specific list of documents required for qualification credit

■ **Automatic Code Generator (ACG) usage and qualification require developing and documenting different approaches**

- o Specific qualification process for ACG technology
- o Is automatically generated code review practical?
- o Do we need to qualify ACG? (we do not do it for compilers)

Outline

- Project Background

- Research Approach

- Development Tool Assessment

- Development Tool Qualification

- Experiments

- Software Tool Forum

- **Research Findings**

- Conclusions

Research Findings: Industry View

- **Basic Issues**
  - o Reliance on verification
  - o Simplicity of in-house tools
  - o Intellectual property issue for COTS
- **Qualification Process**
  - o Current guidelines restrictions
  - o "Business as usual" vs. trust in advances of software engineering technology
- **Acceptance of Qualification Approaches**
  - o What is "source code" in MBD paradigm?
  - o Development tool "determinism"?
  - o Need for tool testing and verification
  - o Roadways: the simplicity of tool function, separation of concerns, partitioning, use of model checking and formal evaluation

Research Findings: Industry View (cont)

- **Safe Usage of Tools**
  - o Education and training
  - o Tool constraints and limitation
  - o Lifecycle with safety closely interfaced process
  - o Strict tool version control
  - o Tool platforms and operating environments
- **Kinds of Development Tools**
  - o State of the art ahead of the regulations
  - o Futuristic features vs. quality and applicability
  - o Design properties assurance
  - o Easy interface
- **Tools Considered for Qualification**
  - o Simple automatic transformation utilities
  - o Intellectual property and data ownership
  - o COTS design tools with ACG capability

Research Findings: Qualification

■ **Why do we need to Qualify Development Tools?**

   o Reduction of development and certification effort

   o Focus on higher level of abstraction

   o Reuse

■ **What Tools Were Attempted to be Qualified**?

   o Few in-house tools qualified on certified projects *(CLARA, GALA, CTG, GPU, UTBT)*

   o COTS qualified by European JAA: *SCADE KCG (Esterel Technologies) and VAPS CG (eNGENUITY)*

   o Interest to qualify functional/block-oriented tools *(Mathworks, TNI-Software, Applied Dynamics, and National Instruments)*

   o Limited interest to qualify the structural/object-oriented tools *(iLogix, TNI-Valiosys, IBM/Rational, and Artisan Software)*

Research Findings: Qualification (cont)

- **How to Achieve Qualification for COTS Tools?**
  - o DO-178B is revision: stand-alone tool qualification?
  - o Version control, precise definition of operational environment, constraints, and limitations
  - o Availability of tool software development data
- **Development Tools Qualification Barriers**
  - o The state of regulations and guidelines
  - o The business model, lack of incentives, cost
  - o Lack of comprehensive tool data
  - o Certification is the goal
- **Factors Regarding Tool Qualification**
  - o Identification of metrics
  - o An independent qualification lab?
  - o Development tool information disclosure?
  - o FAA-sponsored database?

Research Findings: Quality Assessment

- **Assessment of Quality for Safety/Real-Time**
  - o Development tools are software artifacts
  - o Software development strategies for safety
  - o Target application vs. development tool software
- **Evaluation Mechanisms and Methods**
  - o Product: functionality and quality of service
  - o Process: following defined procedures
- **Evaluation Criteria**
  - o Tool selection
  - o Standards compliance
  - o Criteria adoption
- **Log-Term Support**
  - o Tool vendors vs. regulated industry
  - o Software upgrades, updates, and obsolescence
  - o Software industry instability

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Research Findings: Evaluation Taxonomy

- **Tool Functionalities** (design tool / ACG)
  - o Graphical model representing system properties
  - o Validation, simulation and animation
  - o Automatic translation and target interface
  - o Document generation and the version control
- **Tool Categorization**
  - o Reflection of the software lifecycle phases
  - o Focus on the composition and behavior
  - o Model quality and transformation correctness
- **Categories/Function Vital for Development**
  - o Model Driven Development paradigm
  - o ACG interest: quality of the translation
- **Categories/Functions the Need to be Evaluated**
  - o Code generation
  - o Complexity of modern tools
  - o Qualification of narrow functionality of the tool

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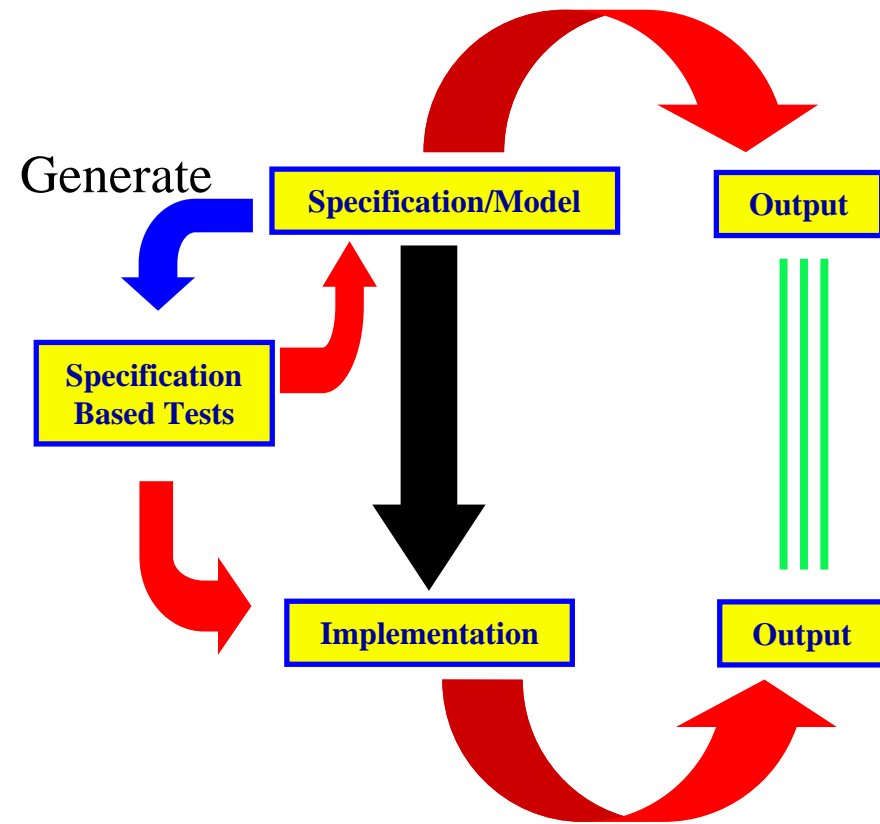- Software Tool Forum

- Research Findings

- **Conclusions**

Conclusions:
How to Show Correctness of Code Generation?

- Generate test suites from specification

  - o Formal representation for specification model

  - o Compare specification behavior with generated code

  - o Automate, not eliminate, unit testing

- The match of two outputs makes an argument on correctness of generated code

Generate

| Specification/Model | Output |

| Specification Based Tests |

| Implementation | Output |

{source: Whalen and Heimdahl}

Conclusions: COTS Tool Qualification Strategy

- Use existing software lifecycle items:
  - Tool source code
  - Tool design documentation (headers and comments)
  - Configuration management and SQA policies
- Reverse engineer (reconstruct):
  - Tool Software Requirements Specification
  - Tool Software Development Plan
  - Tool Software Verification Plan
  - Tool Software Design Document
  - Tool Traceability Matrix
  - Tool Software Accomplishment Summary
  - Tool Software Test Results

Conclusions: Challenges for Development Tools

- **How to Validate Models?**
  - o The models must satisfy the requirements
  - o The properties used in analysis must hold
  - o Model testing is of paramount importance
- **How to Validate Tools?**
  - o We will rely a lot on tools for model validation, can we trust them?
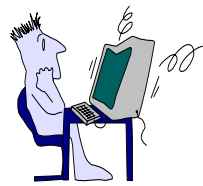 - o Creative use of testing necessary
- **How to Verify and Validate Generated Code?**
  - o Can we trust that the translation was correct?
  - o Test automation is critical
  - o Includes output to analysis tools
- **How to Handle Tool Evolution?**
  - o Tools will evolve and change—re-qualification
  - o Models will not come in one language—translation

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Conclusions: Final Remarks

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- New technologies and tool capabilities
- Model Based Development paradigm
- Cost of tool qualification
- Partial certification credit
- How to handle tool evolution?
- Tool audition independent of application?
- Update DO-178B/ED-12B
- Develop a new guidance document dedicated to software tools
- Define research tasks to address specific tool issues

Publications

- Kornecki, A., Zalewski, J., (2005), "Experimental Evaluation of Software Development Tools for Safety Critical Real-Time Systems" accepted in **NASA Journal Innovations in Systems and Software Engineering**, June, 2005

- Kornecki, A., Zalewski, J., (2005), "Software Development Tool Qualification from the DO-178B Certification Perspective" accepted in **Crosstalk: the Journal of Defense Software Engineering**, July, 2005

- Kornecki, A., Zalewski, J., (2005), "Process-Based Experiment for Design Tool Assessment in Real-Time Safety-Critical Software Development", to be printed in proceedings of 29th Annual **IEEE/NASA Software Engineering Workshop**, April 2005

- Kornecki, A., Hall, K., (2004), "Approaches to Assure Safety in Fly-by-wire Systems: Airbus vs. Boeing", Proceeding of the Eight **IASTED** International **Conference on Software Engineering and Applications** (SEA 2004), ISBN: 0-88986-427-6, MIT, Cambridge, MA, November 2004, CD-edition

- Kornecki, A., Zalewski, J., (2004), "Criteria for Software Tools Evaluation in the Development of Safety-Critical Real-Time Systems", Proceeding of 28th **PSAM7-ESREL'04** Conference, Berlin, Germany, June 2004, pp. 2364-2370

- Kornecki, A., Erwin, J. (2004), "Characteristics of Safety Critical Software", Proceedings of the 22nd International **System Safety Conference**, System Safety Society, ISBN 0-9721385-4-4, Providence, RI, August 2004, CD-edition

- Kornecki, A., Hall, K., Hearn, D., Lau, H., Zalewski, J., (2004), "Evaluation of Software Development Tools for High Assurance Safety Critical Systems", fast Abstract in Proceedings of 8th IEEE International **Symposium on High Assurance Systems Engineering**, HASE'04, ISSN 1530-2059, March 2004, pp. 273-274

- Crawford, L., Erwin, J., Grimaldi, S., Mitra, S., Kornecki, A., Gluch, D., (2004), "A Study of Automatic Code Generation for Safety-Critical Software: Preliminary Report", fast Abstract in Proceedings of 8th IEEE International **Symposium on High Assurance Systems Engineering**, HASE'04, ISSN 1530-2059, March 2004, pp. 287-288

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- Kornecki, A., Zalewski, J., (2003), "Assessment of Software Development Tools for Safety Critical Real Time Systems" Invited Paper in **IFAC Workshop on Programmable Devices and Systems**, Ostrava, Czech Republic, February 2003, pp. 2-7

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